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American Steel & Wire Co.

Modern hog raising

Chicago

[ca. 1930?]

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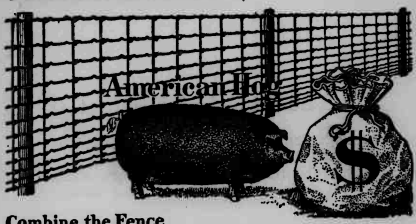
American Fence



Combine the Fence and the Hog and get the Dollars

American Dollars

Modern Hog Raising

American Steel & Wire Co.

Chicago, New York, Denver, San Francisco.

The Finished Product

Among manufacturers today the tendency is toward the finished product—that is, to arrange to carry the manufacturing through until the finished article is produced and ready for market.

It is being conclusively demonstrated all the time that the best profits and most uniform and satisfactory business can only develop where the finished product is turned out. While this is true in manufacturing, it also applies to farming as a whole. Where the grain and other crops are marketed in raw state for any length of time, returns are sure to be meager, and general loss ensue. Under such proceedure, the land deteriorates, growing less productive from year to year, consequently decreasing in value.

The Hog

The Best Medium Whereby the Raw Products of the Farm may be Converted into the Finished Article

Having decided the farmer must for his own best interests market the finished article, it remains to select the animal which, with the least care, labor, and occupancy of land per head or per dollar of profit, can be utilized and put on the market at practically all seasons of the year and at paying prices. The finished product may be horses, beef, mutton, pork, butter or wool, although in general there seems to be no doubt but the American Hog can better and more profitably condense the grasses, grains and by-products of the farm into high-class edible food, than any other animal, and at the same time show a good profit on every pound of feed consumed. The hog can and will eat and turn into pork practically everything that grows or need be grown on the farm, thereby making waste unnecessary and profit certain.

We must make a distinction between the man that "keeps a pig" and the man raising hogs as a business. There is no question as to the profit on the "pig," kept largely to take care of table and kitchen refuse, but the professional pork raiser must also make a business of growing the necessary feed for his herd of hogs, on his own land or the land he occupies, thereby securing the middleman's profit.

Of course there are differences in different localities, due to differences in quality and composition of soil, latitude, climate, etc., but what is true in the main of one section, will be found true of another.

Occasionally price of pork gets low, but invariably it proves only a temporary lull in the market and the past has demonstrated that the farmers who have stuck to pork raising year after year, and made a business of it, are the ones who have made good money and are content to continue in the hog line. At almost any time of the year hogs can be marketed at good prices, although heavy hogs are more in demand during certain months of the year, which is also true of light-weights. A farm devoted largely to hog raising, or hog raising in connection with dairying can easily be kept up in fertility, in fact, improved from year to year.

Why the Hog

Because of the rapidly increasing demand for high-class pork and meat foods secured from the hog. Because the raising of hogs entails the minimum of expense and labor. Because of the ready market for, and uniformly good

prices for prime pork in all sections. Because of the fact that the profits are relatively the same whether ten hogs or five hundred hogs are raised per year. The feed producing capacity of the farm and the farmer's means to buy additional feed only, limiting the number of hogs in the herd.

The Hog and His Needs

To start with, the pig before birth, should be considered by having sow and sire of standard types, calculated to produce only the best in bone, sinew and strength. A pig well born starts out with a big advantage over the weakling, and where the former may prove decidedly profitable, the latter may and is liable to prove a loser.

The sow must not be allowed to become fat-heavy or sluggish, but must be induced to take plenty of exercise, eat mixed ration, including a liberal quantity of green feed or cured grasses. Perfect health must be maintained for the best success, and in large measure this is possible if not certain under right conditions.

The hog is naturally the cleanliest of animals and is only at its best with comfortable and clean quarters. With plenty of pasture range, a warm and clean bed, clean feeding floor, and the proper feed, the hog is bound to thrive. No manipulation can make good choice meat from an animal grown on filthy food, fed in filthy quarters.

Most farmers understand the value of corn, oats, barley, etc., but all do not appreciate the value and necessity of abundance of pasture range for the hogs. A dry and barren pasture is better than none, but is only a makeshift It may furnish exercise for the hogs and also have a sanitary value, but for natural and best results, the pasture should furnish plenty of fresh grass or other forage during the entire growing season.

At the head of the list of green foods, alfalfa doubtless is entitled to place, although the clovers, cowpeas, rape, barley, etc., are all good and will give good results. All hog raisers who have tried the hog pasture idea and have arranged the rotation of green feeds by making two or more pastures, sowing alfalfa, barley, cowpeas, rape, etc, to come at different times are loud in praise of the plan and equally elated at the results in dollars and cents. The hog does not eat grass and green stuff in quantities like cattle or sheep but he needs it just as badly, and the little he does eat, does him a world of good and makes the production of pork much cheaper.

For early pasture, barley may be sown, or a combination of barley and oats. A little later sow rape, in fact rape may be sown almost as early as barley on a well prepared seed bed, and by having two or more fields of rape the hogs may be supplied with pasture the whole season. As soon as the rape reaches a sufficient growth to pasture it, turn from one pasture to the other, allowing the feed to grow in one field while it is being pastured in the other.

For late summer or fall, cowpeas make an excellent pasture. The same land that is sown to barley in the spring may be planted to cowpeas after June and this will furnish pasture in August and September.

While hogs will range the pasture more or less in winter, getting a little feed and the needed exercise, arrangements should be made to supplement grass with something else. This may be well cured alfalfa, good bright well cured clover, sorgham or sugarcane, etc.; this to be run through a feed cutter and so fed, or the process carried further and the feed be ground by a steel burr grinder. Many prefer to mix this ground feed with the ground cereals.

In all dairying districts, pork may well be styled a by-product of the creamery and pasture. The pigs thrive on skimmed milk, other conditions being right. If no skimmed milk is avail-

To enclose one section, 640 acres of land, requires 4 miles or 1,280 rods of fence.

To enclose 20 acres as shown, requires 240 rods of fence.

To enclose 10 acres as shown, requires 160 rods of fence.

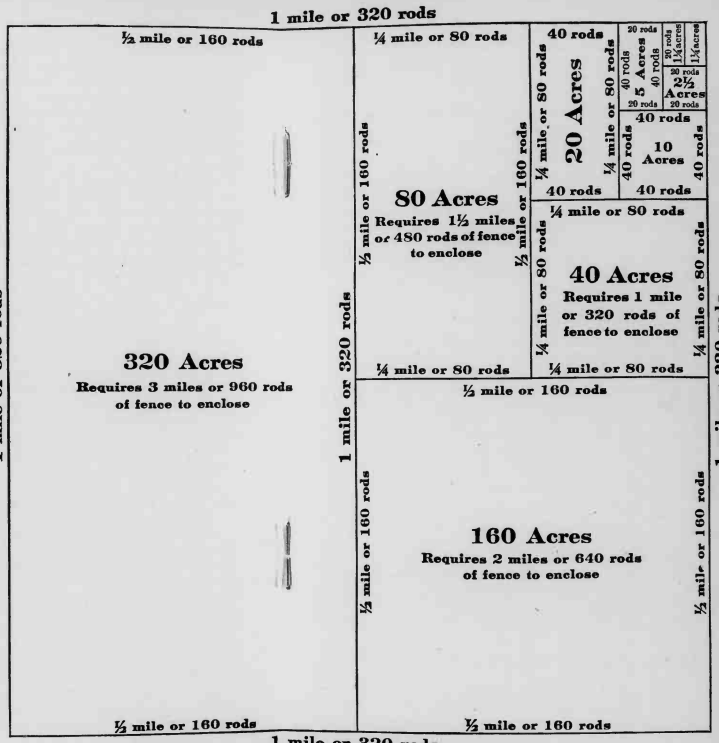
To enclose 5 acres as shown, requires 120 rods of fence.

To enclose 2½ acres as shown, requires 80 rods of fence.

To enclose 1¼ acres as shown, requires 60 rods of fence.

In fencing and subdividing a farm however, considerable saving results from the fact that division fences serve a double purpose. As for instance, if you have 40 acres enclosed, by running one line of fence across its middle, two 20 acre fields are secured.

To enclose and divide a section, or 640 acres into 40 acre fields, requires 10 miles or 3,200 rods of fence. 4 additional miles of fence or 1,280 rods would subdivide the entire section into 20 acre fields.


1 mile or 320 rods
½ mile or 160 rods
¼ mile or 80 rods
40 rods
20 rods
1¼ acres
5 Acres
2½ Acres
20 Acres
10 Acres
80 Acres
Requires 1½ miles or 480 rods of fence to enclose
40 Acres
Requires 1 mile or 320 rods of fence to enclose
320 Acres
Requires 3 miles or 960 rods of fence to enclose
160 Acres
Requires 2 miles or 640 rods of fence to enclose
1 mile or 320 rods
One Section—640 Acres.

able, remember that corn, grass, and pure drinking water, make pork of fine quality. In extremely cold weather, the chill should be taken from the drink, as the hog will not make weight while warming up ice water in his stomach.

Exercise

It is conceded by those who have had most experience, that hogs cannot be economically raised in close pens. Exercise is essential to health, proper growth, and high quality of meat. The pasture furnishes the needed exercise, and the hog gets it in a natural way, when he wants it, and while enjoying himself.

Sleeping Quarters

In warm or moderately cool weather, hogs can sleep in the open and be comfortable, in fact will be benefitted by sleeping in the open air. In cold weather, however, warm quarters should be provided, with plenty of clean dry straw, or other bedding. Good ventilation is necessary, but the wind and drafts should be shut out and a reasonable degree of warmth maintained. The roof should be rain-proof so that everything on the inside may be kept dry.

Shade

During summer shade should be provided. This should be rain-proof and of sufficient area to accommodate the entire herd without crowding. Of course if the hog lot is partially timbered, additional shade may not be necessary.

Demand Growing for Fancy Pork

There will doubtless always be a market for heavy hogs, especially during the winter months. There is, however, a growing demand for fancy or baby pork.

Baby Pork

Baby beef is in high favor these days with both the producer and consumer. The consumer is willing to pay the extra price if the desired quality is forthcoming and all arguments in favor of baby beef are equally applicable to baby pork. The six or seven months old hog is without doubt the moneymaker for the producer and the satisfactory article for the best class of consumers. There is more money and profit in a hog weighing 150 lbs. at 7c than in a 200 lb. hog at 5c per lb or even at 7c per lb. This results from the universal truth that the first 100 lbs. of any hog is made much cheaper, than the second 100 lbs. Hence the 150 lb. hog is more profitable than the 200 lb. one, even at the same price per pound. These facts in connection with the higher price per pound commanded these days by the lighter hog clearly indicate the logical course to pursue. In short, the evidence is all in favor of quickly grown young pork, and seldom if ever can a farmer show best profits from hogs kept longer than six to seven months.

To grow Baby Pork successfully, good pasture must be provided, the pigs given a fair chance by coming into the world strong and lusty, be kept growing and in prime physical condition from start to finish. Bone and flesh forming foods must be fed, and combined with comfortable and cleanly surroundings. Plenty of clean water to drink at all times is important. A stunted pig is bad property as he never really gets over it. Good pasture and care may help him but he has lost time and vigor which cannot be wholly regained.

Cultivate the acquaintance of your hogs. Let them know you as a friend. Keep back the dog and handle the hogs so they will know no fear.

Fences

Inasmuch as it is proven the pasture is all important to successful hog raising (in fact it

is declared by experts that profit is next to impossible without pasture) the item of fencing must receive careful attention. The best fence is none too good and the slight difference in first cost between a really good fence and something that can be made to do for a year or two, should not prevent the use of the best that can be secured.

Good posts, properly set, with woven steel wire fabric, from 26 inches to four feet high, heavy wires, make the ideal hog fence. It is sanitary, safe, reliable and not expensive. The greater the diameter of the wires used in the fabric, the greater the strength and longer the life. A fence composed of No. 9 galvanized wire is ideal and we consider the extra cost of such a fence a good investment, considering additional strength and service secured, as against the lighter weight fences.

From 100 to 120 rods will fence a five acre field, and 160 rods will fence a ten acre field. A second field will require less fence on account of the division fence answering for both fields.

By referring to diagram on page 6 you can readily determine the number of rods required for certain pasturage, and also get a very clear idea as to the fence required to put your farm in shape so that all fields may be pastured and all wastage of crops prevented. After harvest there is always more or less loose grain left in the fields and this is a clear loss unless the hogs and other animals can be turned on the stubble.

There is also invariably a lot of green feed grown in the stubble during the fall months which can be readily converted into pork or other meat if the fields are properly fenced. Hogs will get a lot of good feeding from the cornfield after husking, if allowed to do so. In short, practically all fields at some season of the year offer fine opportunity for cheap pork, mutton or beef making and good fences are all that is required to take advantage of these favorable and fortunate opportunities for

money making and increasing the profits of the farm.

The American Fence is ideal in structural and economical features as it furnishes the greatest strength and most thorough protection with the least material and expense. The American is not a cheap fence in the common usage of the word, but it is the best fence possible to make by using our high grade, hard, stiff fence steel, employing the most skilled operatives and maintaining the most rigorous system of treble inspection at the mills. Necessary expense is never considered in the manufacture of American Fence. We aim to make the best regardless of cost and when you buy the American you are sure to get the best and to be not only satisfied, but highly pleased with the service it will give you.

For the very best results as to strength and durability buy American Fence made of No. 9 wire, both stay and horizontals, and you will have the best that money can buy. There are millions of miles of American Fence in use today, in fact were it equally distributed there would be over fifty rods of American Fence on each and every farm in the United States. Still the demand increases, the year 1907 showing much the largest output during the history of our fence business. No better evidence is needed as to what American Fence is and what it will do.

Modern methods of stock and hog raising have been made possible only by the introduction and use of American Fence and the two are inseparably connected in the thought and practice of our most successful farmers and meat producers.

The foregoing

has been submitted to and approved by several of the most expert and successful hog raisers and is a consensus of opinion of acknowledged authorities.

American Steel & Wire Co.

Chicago New York Denver San Francisco

We have American fence in stock at all times and will be more than pleased to show you the different styles, weights, etc. Our prices are right and we know we can save you money on your fence requirements and at the same time furnish you the best fence money can buy.

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